

March 29, 2010

Chair Arthur Russo called a meeting of the Charter Review Advisory Commission to order at 6:47 p.m. Members present were Vice Chair Ken Booth, Linda Butera-Noble, Stanley Wynne, Fausto Anguilla and Maureen F. Smith. Absent members were Paul St. Germain and Ronald Stewart.

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2010 Public Hearing approved unanimously. (KB-SW)

Chairman Russo advised the commission that he had been contacted by John Baker of the Pawtucket Times and that he would like to do an article on the commission.

Chairman Russo asked the commission what direction they were looking to go in for the April 12, 2010 meeting. The commission will look at the Water Commission and Personnel section. April 27, 2010 will be a Public Hearing.

The commission discussed Article VIII – Department of Public Works

§ C8-1. Organization. There were no recommendations for change in this section.

§ C8-2. Qualifications of Director of Public Works.

Motion to increase the years of experience from three (3) to five (5) and to put in a post secondary degree requirement passed unanimously. (KB-LN)

§ C8-3. Powers and Duties. There were no recommendations for change in this section.

§ C8-4. Appointment of Personnel.

Motion to change the word “Inspector” to the word “Official” after the word Building in the second and third lines to conform to State law approved unanimously. (KB-LN)

The commission discussed Article IX – Police Department

§ C9-1. Organization.

Subsection (1) Motion to add recommended language from the Town Administrator to add a requirement for a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university in criminal justice, public administration or related field passed unanimously. (LN-KB)

Subsection (2) The commission requests more information and reasoning for the request from the Town Administrator to change the word “shall” to “may” in regards to the position of the Deputy Chief.

There were no further recommendations for subsections (3) & (4).

§ C9-2. Powers and Duties. There were no recommendations for change in this section.

The commission discussed Article X – Department of Health

**Motion to eliminate Article X in its entirety, as long as it does not conflict with the State Department of Health, passed unanimously.
(KB-LN)**

The commission discussed Article XI – Department of Public Welfare

There were no recommendations for change in Article XI.

The commission discussed Article XII – School Department

§ C12-1. School Committee: number; term. There were no recommendations for change in this section.

§ C12-2. Qualifications. There were no recommendations for change in this section.

§ C12-3. Vacancies.

Motion to eliminate the words “and a member of the same political party” and add the words “except for the members at large” where the previous words were eliminated, passed unanimously. (LN-KB)
This recommendation is due to the school committee being a non-partisan committee.

§ C12-4. Compensation.

Motion to change the words “school committee” to “town council” in the second line of the paragraph passed unanimously. (LN-SW)

§ C12-5. Powers and duties.

Subsection (6) Motion to change the words “Finance Director” to “School Finance Department” to reflect what actually happens and to ask the opinion of the finance director passed unanimously. (LN-SW)

The commission tabled Article XIII – Board of Water Commissioners.

The commission tabled Article XIV – Personnel.

The commission discussed Article XV – Planning and Zoning Boards

There were no recommendations for change in Article XV.

§ C16-1. Town Sergeant.

Motion to eliminate all language after the first sentence and replace with “The powers and procedure of said Town Sergeant shall be as prescribed by law.” Passed unanimously (KB-LN)

§ C16-2. Auctioneer.

Motion to change the word “shall” to the word “may” in the first sentence passed unanimously. (LN-SW)

§ C16-3. Sealer of Weights and Measures. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C16-4. Civil defense. The commission discussed updating the name to “Emergency Management Agency” and requested that Fausto look at language in RIGL.

§ C16-5. Parks and Recreation Commission.

Motion to eliminate the words “and shall provide that a member of the School Committee, a member of the Town Council and a member from the Department of Public Works designated by the Director of said department in said Town shall be ex officio members of said Board of Parks and Recreation.” passed on a two to one vote with Linda Noble and Stanley Wynne voting for and Ken Booth voting

against.

§ C16-6. Industrial Development Commission.

Motion to delete this entire section passed unanimously. (KB-LN)

§ C16-7. {Appointment of other officers.} There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C16-8. Lincoln Land Trust. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C16-9. Lincoln Library. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C16-10. Conservation Commission. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

The commission discussed Article XVII – General Provisions

§ C17-1. Amending the Charter. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-2. Specific provisions shall prevail. There were no

recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-3. Laws affection officers. The commission tabled this section.

§ C17-4. Oath of office. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-5. Official bond. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-6. Retirement of municipal employees. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-7. Publicity of records. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-8. Separability clause. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-9. Financial interest prohibited. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-10. Codification of ordinances. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-11. Appointment and discharge of subordinates.

**Motion to eliminate this section in its entirety passed unanimously.
(KB-LN)**

§ C17-12. {Political affiliation of members of boards and commissions.}

Motion to eliminate the words “and any minority member shall be a bona fide member of his party” and “Recommendation of candidates for appointment shall be made by the respective Town party chairman.” passed unanimously. (LN-SW)

§ C17-13. {Dual office holding.} There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-14. {Employees prohibited from holding elective office.} There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-15. {Full text of Charter or amendment not required on ballot.}

Motion to add the words “on the Town web-site and at the public library.” to the last sentence passed unanimously. (LN-SW)

§ C17-16. {Officers and employees to work regular business hours: exception.} There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-17. {Officers to be electors of the Town.}

Motion to have Fausto recommend change to language passed unanimously.

§ C17-18. Review of Charter. There were no recommendations for change to this section.

§ C17-19. {Minutes of boards and committees required.} There were no recommendations for change to this section.

The commission discussed Article XVIII – Continuity in Government

There were no recommendations for change in Article XVIII.

The commission discussed Article XIX – Inauguration of New Charter Government

There were no recommendations for change in Article XIX.

The commission discussed Article XX – Suspension: Discharge: Reinstatement

The commission will review Article XX at there next scheduled meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.

Maureen F. Smith